23.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising encrypting communications
      between the user interface device and the PLC.

24.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising encrypting communications
      between the programmable cable and the PLC.

25.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising encrypting communications
      between the programmable cable and the user interface device.

26.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising the activities of:
      providing a programmable cable comprising a first end connectable to a network and a
second end connectable to a network communications device, a user interface device couplable
to a network comprising the programmable cable, a programmable logic controller (PLC), and
the network communications device; and
      automatically communicating from the programmable cable to the network
communications device a PIN number and at least one of a plurality of configuration parameters
comprising a PIN number.

27.   (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising initializing the programmable
      cable using the user interface device through the network by setting at least one of a
      plurality of configuration parameters further comprising: a mode of operation, a PPI
      protocol, a cable locality mode, a data transfer speed, and a communication language.

28.   (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the configuration parameters communicated
      to the network communications device further comprise a network communications
      device setup string.

29.   (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising monitoring data traffic through the
      programmable cable using a set of status indicators.

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30. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising encrypting communications between the user interface device and the PLC.

31. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising encrypting communications between the programmable cable and the PLC.

32. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising encrypting communications between the programmable cable and the user interface device.